GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1538
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2008
PM`S VISIT TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES
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Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries visited by the Prime Minister during October-November,2008;and

(b) the details of talks held and the agreements signed during his visit?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS(SHRI ANAND SHARMA)

(a) & (b) Details are enclosed as an Annexure.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) & (B) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1538 REGARDING "PM's VISIT TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES" FOR ANSWER ON 10.12.2008

COUNTRY OF VISIT (with dates)

DETAILS OF TALKS HELD AND AGREEMENTS SIGNED

Japan

22-23 Oct 2008

Prime Minister held talks with Japanese Prime Minister Taro Aso; met with the Emperor; Japanese Foreign Minister; Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry; and leaders of the New Komeito Party and the Democratic Party of Japan. Both sides exchanged views on bilateral, regional and international issues of common concern.

A Joint Statement on the Advancement of Strategic and Global Partnership between India and Japan and a Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation between India and Japan were signed by the two Prime Ministers.

China

24-25 Oct 2008

Prime Minister attended the 7th Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Summit at Beijing and addressed plenary session on Sustainable Development. He also made intervention on the International Financial Situation. At the Working Lunch for the Leaders, Prime Minister made intervention on Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The 7th ASEM Summit issued
(i) Beijing Declaration on Sustainable Development;
(ii) Chair's Statement; and
(iii) A Statement on the International Financial Situation.

On 25 October 2008, Prime Minister had a meeting with Chinese President Hu Jintao.Both sides exchanged views on bilateral, regional and international issues of common concern.

Oman

8-9 Nov 2008

Prime Minister held bilateral discussions with the Deputy Prime Minister of Oman and HM the Sultan. Both sides agreed to transform the historical bilateral ties into a strategic relationship for the quick progress and mutual benefit of the two countries.

Memorandums of Understanding on Manpower and for establishing India-Oman Joint Investment Fund were signed.

Qatar

9-10 Nov 2008

Prime Minister called on Emir of the State of Qatar and held delegation level talks with Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Qatar. Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to work together towards further strengthening of bilateral relations in various spheres including in the field of education, hydrocarbon, supply of additional gas to India, Qatari investment in India and Indian expatriates in Qatar.

Two Agreements on cooperation in Security & Law Enforcement Matters and Defence Cooperation were signed. These Agreements will provide institutional mechanism to expand defence & security cooperation and enable holding of regular consultations between the security agencies of the two countries.

USA

14-15 Nov 2008

Prime Minister attended the G-20 Summit at Washington. At the Summit,the leaders of the G-20 countries pledged to take steps to tackle the global financial crisis and expressed their determination to enhance cooperation and work together to restore global growth and achieve needed reforms in the world`s financial systems.

A Declaration of the Summit on Financial Markets and the World Economy was issued.